Threats and Disturbances:

DEM Water Quality Ratings: Ellerbe Creek is rated as poor both biologically and chemico-physically (DEM 1985); Little Lick Creek was rated as Good-Fair, biologically, in 1985, but has more recently been rated as Poor (DEM, 1991); Panther Creek was given a Good-Fair Biologic Rating in 1985 (DEM, 1985)

Sources of Pollution: Durham's Northside Wastewater Treatment discharges into Ellerbe Creek, as do several residential, institutional and commercial package treatment plants; several residential, institutional and commercial package treatment plants empty into Panther Creek, Chunkey Pipe Creek and Little Lick Creek

Barriers to Migration: Falls Lake Dam is a major barrier

Potential for Impoundment, Flow Alteration or Draining: Subimpoundments have been constructed on some of the tributaries in the gamelands

Species Records:

Castor canadensis (92-04-20/o)
Kinosternon subrubrum (DUKE)
Desmognathus fuscus (DUKE)
Rana palustris (92-03-27/o)
Rana utricularia (DUKE)
Lepisosteus osseus (MENH)
Anguilla rostrata (MENH)
Dorosoma petenense (MENH)
Esox americanus (MENH)
Esox niger (MENH)
Carassius auratus (MENH)
Cyprinus carpio (MENH)
Notemigonus crysoleucas (MENH)
Semotilus atromaculatus (MENH)

Nocomis leptocephalus (MENH)
Ictiobus bubalus (MENH)
Catostomus commersoni (MENH)
Erimyzon oblongus (MENH)
Moxostoma macrolepidotum (MENH)
Moxostoma pappillosum (MENH)
Ictalurus punctatus (MENH)
Ameiurus catus (MENH)
Ameiurus natalis (MENH)
Ameiurus nebulosus (MENH)
Noturus insignis (MENH)
Gambusia affinis holbrooki (MENH)
Morone americana (MENH)

Centrarchus macropterus (MENH)
Pomoxis annularis (MENH)
Pomoxis nigromaculatus (MENH)
Micropterus salmoides (MENH)
Lepomis gulosus (MENH)
Lepomis cyanellus (MENH)
Lepomis macrochirus (MENH)
Lepomis microlophus (MENH)
Lepomis gibbosus (MENH)
Lepomis auritus (MENH)
Perca flavescens (MENH)
Etheostoma nigrum (MENH)
Epitheca cynosura (92-04-20/o)
Libellula lydia (92-04-20/o)

Additional Survey Needs:

Many of the fish records date before the construction of Falls Lake; a new survey should be conducted for species that once inhabited the tributary streams.